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STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR
20301 MAIL SERVICE CENTER • RALEIGH, NC 27699-0301

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Contact: Chris Mackey
Office: (919) 733-5612

Gov. Perdue Announces That Red Hat Will Maintain and Grow its Global Headquarters in North Carolina

Headquarters and new technology functions will create 540 jobs

RALEIGH – Gov. Bev Perdue announced today that Red Hat, a North Carolina based software developer and the world's leading provider of open source software solutions to businesses, government and other enterprises, will maintain and expand its headquarters in Wake County.

“Nothing makes me happier than to announce that Red Hat is staying in North Carolina – except, perhaps, to say they are also adding 540 new jobs,” said Gov. Perdue. “Red Hat is a homegrown, high-tech, global brand and we fought hard to keep them here. That’s because economic development – and growing jobs now – isn’t just about wooing outside companies. It’s about taking care of the ones we already have, and encouraging them to put down their roots even deeper.”

Red Hat is currently headquartered in Raleigh with satellite offices worldwide. Red Hat is a leading software developer and technology provider focused on making high-quality, low-cost open source technologies accessible to businesses, government and other enterprises. The company develops and provides operating system platforms along with middleware, virtualization and cloud computing solutions offering customers a long-term plan for building infrastructures leveraging open source technologies. The company currently employs more than 690 people in North Carolina.

Red Hat’s expansion will take place in two projects. The first will expand its current headquarter operations and add jobs associated with its existing core product lines. The second will support the company’s expansion into new cutting edge technologies like software virtualization and technology cloud offerings. The two projects will result in a total of 540 jobs being created with more than \$109 million in investment, including the construction of a new headquarters facility with future expansion possibilities. The total estimated positive impact to the state’s economy over the life of the grant terms is estimated to be \$1.5 billion.